



**Additional file 2:** Figure S1. The largest spinal nerves are associated with the S1 and T-1 vertebrae. **(A)** Close-up view of S1, dorsal aspect. The rib associated with this vertebra articulates with the ilium of the pelvis to form the SI joint. **(B)** Ventral side of spinal column showing vertebrae T-4 to S2/C1. The largest spinal nerves (arrowheads) are associated with T-1 and S1. T-2 is intermediate in size. T-4, T-3 and S2/C1 are small. Dotted circles, approximate location of the spinal ganglia; dotted lines, approximate course spinal nerves take to spinal ganglia. Note that the actual location of the SCI in this animal is one segment rostral (between T-5 and T-4) to the targeted site (between T-4 and T-3). **(C)** Close-up of T-1 and S1 shown in (B). More flesh has been removed to demonstrate that the vertebra associated with the caudal-most large spinal nerve is indeed S1. The rib associated with it articulated with the pelvis. R, rostral; C, caudal.